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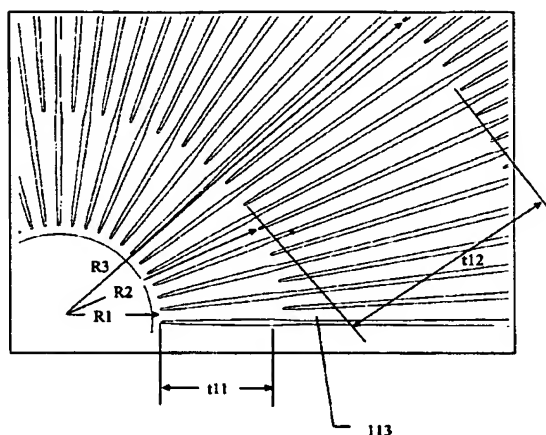
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(54) Title: CHROMATOGRAPHY COLUMN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A chromatography column distribution system (101) comprises a set of first bed support ribs (107) extending radially from a inner, first radial position (R1) near the centre of the plate to a outer radial position nearer to the periphery (109) of the plate and at least one set of intermediate bed support ribs (117, 119) starting at an intermediate radial position (R2, R3) and extending to an outer radial position nearer to the periphery (109) of the plate (101), whereby channels are formed between adjacent bed support ribs (107, 117, 119). The desired effective local channel height is intended to vary in accordance with a predetermined formula from said first radial position (R1) to said outer radial position, and in accordance with the present invention the transverse cross-sectional areas of said ribs (107, 117, 119) or said channels are adapted such that the actual local effective channel height is within 15% of the desired local effective channel height over portions of the distribution system situated between said first radial position (R1) and said outer radial position, wherein the total length of said portions correspond to at least 80% of the distance between said first radial position (R1) and said outer radial position.

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